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tion of the bodies of serpents, this one must ex-

"But I had not descended more than a dozen

steps before I felt a shiver keneath my hand,

violently drawn upward. I withdrew my hand

'I now became possessed by a wild terror. The creature must be furious that I had dis-

toward a lofty old tower, which stood in one corner of the castle. Up the winding stairs of

this I ran with a speed which belongs only to a

frantically terrified creature until I reached the fourth story, where I dashed through an

open doorway, slammed behind me an iron

door, which shut with a spring, and fell gasp-

slight rattling of the great hinges, that some-

thing was pushing against the door, but I did

not move. I knew that I was safe. The room

in which I lay was a prison dungeon, and in it,

in the olden times, it is said, men had been left

to perish. Escape or communion with the

outer world was impossible. A little light and

air came through a narrow slit near the top of

the wall, and to force the door would be im-

I was here in this dungeon how could they

open the door? The key was in my father's possession. He had taken it to Vienna to ex-

hibit it as a curiosity to some of his mechanical

friends. He believed that there was not such

another key in the world. I was in the habit

I should be looked for I believed that the

tower would be the last place visited.

hopeless, I fell asleep.

COL. KALDHEIN WAS BEING ATTACKED BY MY PROTECTOR.

there was no place of refuge to which I could | wind blew with such terrific violence that the

of making long absences from the castle, and if

"Night came on; the little light in the room

vanished and, hungry, thirsty, and almost

"During the night there was a most dread-

ful storm. The thunder roared, the lightning

and then another, and now I felt the wind

bling with a fearful apprehension of what might happen next, I cowered against the wall

until the day broke; then I perceived that in front of me was a great hole in the wall of

the dungeon, which extended for more than a

yard above the floor. I sat and looked at this

until the light became stronger, and then I

cautiously approached the aperture and looked

out. Nearly the whole of the castle lay in ruins

"It was easy to see what had happened. The

tottering, stood alone, high above the prostrate

fall, and at any moment its shaken foundations

might give away beneath it.

"Through the hole in the wall, which had

been caused by the tearing away of some of

the connection between the lower and main buildings, I could look down on the ground be-

low, covered with masses of jagged stone, but there was no way in which I could get down. I

could not descend that perpendicular wall. If I leaped out death would be certain.

head of a dog pushed against me. A spasm of terror ran through me, but the moment the

creature began to lick my hands I knew that I

had nothing to fear from him. Instantly my courage returned. I felt that he was my pro-tector. I patted his head and he renewed his

"Passing my hand over him I found he

holding himself in his present position by means of his fore legs. which were stretched out upon the floor. What a dog this must be, who could climb a wall! But I gave no time to

conjectures of this sort. How could I avail

could he enable me to escape from that dan-

bered the snake part of him. Judging from the ratio of diminution, which I have men-tioned before, that part, if hanging down, must reach nearly, if not quite, to the ground. By taking advantage of this means of descent

I might be saved, but the feat would require

great dexterity and an immense amount of

faith. This serpent-like portion of the ani-

mal was invisible. How could I know how

"But there was no time for consideration.

the wind had again arisen and was blowing

with fury. The tower shook beneath me; at any moment it might fall. If I should again

escape from death, through the assistance of

my invisible friend, I must avail myself of that

issistance instantly.

'I stopped and felt the animal. He still hung

by the fore part of his body, and by his fore legs to the floor of the dungeon, and by reach-ing out I could feel that the rest of him ex-

tended downward. I therefore seized his body

in my arms, threw myself out of the aperture "In a very short time I found that I had

Suddenly a thought came to me. I remem-

lf of his assistance? In what manner

"As I crouched at the opening I felt the

If the winds should again arise it must

"There was no further sleep for me. Trem-

blowing into my prison.

before me!

gerous tower?

these I began to descend, my heart beating fast with terror, my face blanched, I am sure, but my hand still moving along the body of the awful creature. I had studied zoology, giving a good deal of attention to reptiles, and I knew that, judged by the ordinary ratio of diminutary when shall I drop?

tend a long distance down the stairs.

creature was coming down stairs.

(CONTINUED.1

"I had heard of animals and even human beings who were totally invisible, but who still retained their form, their palpability and all and then a jerk, and the next moment it was the powers and functions of life. I had heard of houses haunted by invisible animals; I had and started to one side, and then, how. I know read the story of the maiden whose comings her lover perceived by the parting of the tall grain in the field of ripe wheat through which she passed, but whose form, although it might be folded in his arms, was yet as invisible to his sight as the summer air. I did not doubt for a moment that the animal that had come to me was one of those strange beings. I lifted his head; it was heavy. I took hold of a paw which he readily gave me; he had every attribute of a real dog, except that he could not be

seen." "I call that perfectly horrible," said Aunt ing upon the floor.
"In less than a minute I was aware, by a Martha with a sort of a gasp. "Perhaps," said the young man, "you would

prefer that I should not continue.' At this both my wife and Aunt Martha declared that he must go on, and even I did not

object to hearing the rest of the story. "Well, said the young man. "Ajax never came back. It is generally believed that dogs can see things which are invisible to us, and I possible. am afraid that my faithful hound was frightened, perhaps to death, when he found that the animal whose entrance into the court yard he had perceived was a supernatural and un-

"But if I needed a canine companion I had one, for by day or night this invisible dog never | and gasped and panted. left me. When I slept he lay on the floor by the side of my bed; if I put down my hand I could always feel his head, and often he would to get out of this horrible dungeon? Even if I I became really attached to the invisible ani- making any one hear me I knew that was immal. His constant companionship seemed to indicate that he had come to guard me and that he was determined to do it thoroughly. I felt so much confidence in his protection, although I knew not how it could be exerted, that one morning I decided to take a walk and, with my hand on the head of the dog to make sure that he was with me, I strolled into the

open country.
"I had walked about a mile and was approach ing a group of large trees, when suddenly from behind one of them the tall figure of a man appeared. In an instant I knew it to be Col. Kaldhein; his was a face which could not easily be forgotten. Without a word he raised a pistol which he held in his hand and fired at me. The ball whistled over my head.

"I stopped short, startled and frightened almost out of my senses. I was unarmed and flashed through the slit in the wall, and the

fly. It was plain that the man was determined

it again. I involuntarily shrank back, expect-

ing death, but before he could fire his arm sud-

denly dropped and the pistol was discharged

into the ground. Then began a strange scene.

The man shouted, kicked and beat up and

down with his arms, his pistol fell from his

hand, he sprang from side to side, he turned

around, he struggled and yelled.
"I stood astounded. For an instant I supposed the man had been overtaken by some

sort of fit; but in a flash the truth came to me.

Kaldhein was being attacked by my pretector,

the invisible dog. "Horrified by this conviction, my first im-

pulse was to save the man, and, without know-

ing what I was going to do, I stepped quickly

toward him, but, stumbling over something I did not see, I fell sprawling. Before I could

regain my feet I saw Kaldhein fall backward to

the ground, where a scene took place, so terri-

When, with trembling steps, I approached, the man was dead. The invisible dog had almost

the spot another minute, but hurried home to the castle. As I rapidly walked on I felt the

dog bedside me, and, putting my hand upon him, I felt that he was panting terribly, and for

an upper room of the castle, reflecting upon the recent dreadful event, when the thought

struck me that the invisible dog, who was by

my side, apparently asleep, was of an unusually

powerful build to overcome so easily such a strong man as Kaldhein. I felt a desire to

know how large the creature really was, and,

as I had never touched any portion of his body

back of his shoulders, I now passed my hand

along his back. I was amazed at his length,

and when I had moved my hand at least seven

feet from his head it still rested upon his body;

a manner which terrified me, but, impelled by

a horrible but irresistible curiosity, my hand

the form beneath my hand was cylindrical, ap-parently about a foot in diameter. As my hand moved on the diameter diminished, and

"I now had reached the open door of the

The body of the snake extended

room. The body of the snake extended through it. It went on to the top of the stairs;

the skin of the creature became cold

clammy. I was feeling the body of a snake!

"But I no longer touched the body of a dog;

then the form of that body began to change in

"About the end of this time I was sitting in

three days I did not leave the house.

"I could do nothing. I did not remain upon

torn him to pieces.

that I shall not attempt to describe it.

Quickly recocking his pistol Kaldhein raised

"Fortunately I was on the leeward side of the tower, and I was not swung about by the wind. Steadily I descended, and steadily the diameter of the form I grasped diminished; soon I could grasp in with my hand, then with a terrified glance I looked below. I was still at a sickening distance from the ground. I shut my eyes. I slipped down, down, down. The tail became like a thick rope which I encircled with each hand. It became thinner and thinner. It grew so small that I could not hold it,

but as I felt it slip from my fingers my feet rested on a pile of stones. "Bewildered and almost exhausted I stumbled over the ruins, gained the unencumbered ground and ran as far from the tower as I could, sinking down at last against the trunk of a tree in a neighboring field. Scarcely had I reached this spot when the fury of the wind storm appeared to redouble, and before the wild and shricking blast the tower bent, and then fell with a great crash upon the other

ruin.
"The first thought that came into my mind when I beheld the dreadful spectacle con-cerned the creature who had twice saved my life. Had he escaped or was he crushed be-neath that mas of stones? I felt on either side

to discover if he were near me, but he was not. Had he given his life for mine? "Had I been stronger I would have searched for him; I would have clambered among the ruins to see if I could discover his mangled form. If I could but reach his faithful head I would stroke and caress it, living or dead. But excitement, fatigue and want of food had made me so weak that I could do nothing but sit upon the ground with my back against the not, I became aware that the dog part of the

"While thus resting I perceived that the whole of the tower had not been demolished by the storm. Some of the rooms in which we had covered his real form. He had always been careful to keep his head toward me. I should lived, having been built at a later date than the rest of the great edifice, had resisted the power be torn to pieces as Kaldlein had been! Down the stairs I dashed, across the court yard and of the wind and was still standing.

"From the direction of the uninjured portion of the castle I now saw approaching a light-colored object, which seemed to be floating in the air about a toot from the ground. As it came nearer I saw that it was a basket, and I immediately understood the situation. My faithful friend was alive, and he was bringing me some refreshments.

'On came the basket, rising and falling with the bounds of the dog. It was truly an odd spectacle, but a very welcome one. In a few moments the basket was deposited at my side and I was caressing the head of the faithful dog. In the basket I found a bottle of wine and some bread and meat, which the good creature had doubtless discovered in kitchen of the castle, and it was not long before I felt like myself again. The storm had now almost passed away, and I arose and went to my own rooms, my friend and protector stili

"I knew the invisible dog, or whatever it keeping close to my side. was, could not get in unless the door was opened. I had frequently noticed that when "On the morning of the next day, as I sat wondering what had happened to my servants e entere 1 a room it was through an open door, and whether my father had been apprised of and I sometimes knew of his approach by seeing an unlatched door open without visible the disaster to the castle, I felt something pulling at the skirt of my coat. I put out my hand and found that it was the invisible dog. Imag-ining that he wished me to follow him I arose, cause, so, feeling secure for the present, I lay

and, obeying the impulse given me by his was seized by a new terror. How was I ever | gentle strain upon my coat, I followed him out stand up and press his nose against me, as if to assure me that he was there. This stronge companionship continued for several days, and of the door, across the court yard and into the it was desired that I should go. "After a walk of about half an hour I ap-

"I had no hope that my servants would seek me here. I had not seen any one when I ran proached a great oak tree, with low, widespreading branches. Some one was sitting beinto the tower, and if they should discover that neath it. Imagining the truth, I rushed forward. It was Marie

"It was needless for us to say anything, to explain the state of our feelings toward each other. The tale was told by the delight with which we met. When I asked her how she came to be there she told me that about an hour before, while sitting in front of her father's mansion, she felt samething gently pulling at her skirts, and, although at first a little frightened, she was at length impelled by curiosity to obey the impulse, and, without knowing whether it was the wind or some supernatural force which had led her here, she ad come.

"We had a great deal to say to each other. She told me that she had been longing to send me a message to warn me that Col. Kaldhein would certainly kill me the next time he saw a message, for the colonel had had her actions closely watched.

"When the news came of Kaldhein's death she at first feared that I had killed him, and would therefore be obliged to fly the country. but when it was known that he had been almost torn to pieces by wild beasts she, like every one else, was utterly amazed and could not understand the matter at all. None but the most ferocious creatures could have inflicted the in-juries of which the man had died, and where those creatures came from no one knew. Some people thought that a pack of bloodhounds night have broken loose from some of the estates of the surrounding country, and in the course of their journeyings might have met with the colonel and fallen upon him. Others surmised that a bear had come down from the mountains and killed the man, but the fact was

that nobody knew anything about it. "I did not attempt to acquaint Marie with the truth. At that moment the invisible dog was lying at my side, and I teared if I mentioned his existence to Marie she might fly in terror. To me there was only one important phase of the affair, and that was that Marie was now free; that she might be mine.

"Before we parted we were affianced lovers. pledged to marry as soon as possible. I wrote to my father, asking for his permission to wed the lady. But in his reply he utterly forbade any such marriage. Marie also discovered, without difficulty, that her parents would not permit a union with a foreigner, and would, indeed, oppose her marriage with any one at this time

tower shook and trembled. After a time I heard a tremendous crash as of falling walls, "However, as usual, love triumphed, and after surmounting many difficulties, we were married and fled to America. Since that time I have been obliged to support myself and my wife, for my father will give me no assistance. He had proposed a very different career for me, and was extremely angry when he found his plans had been completely destroyed. But we are hopeful; we work hard and hope that we may yet be able to support ourselves comfortably without aid from any one. We are young, we are strong, we trust each other and have firm faith in the success of our

efforts. "I had only one regret in leaving Europe storm had demolished the crumbling walls of the old building and the tower, itself frail and and that was that my faithful friend, the noble and devoted invisible dog, was obliged to remain on the other side of the Atlantic. Why this was so I do not know, but perhaps it was for the best. I have never told my wife of his existence, and if she had accidentally discovered it I know not what might have been the

effects upon her nervous system.

"The dog accompanied me through Austria,
Switzerland, and France to Havre, from which port we sailed. I took leave of him on the gangplank. He licked my hands and I caressed and stroked him. People might have thought that my actions denoted insanity, but every-body was so greatly occupied these last moments before departure, perhaps I was not noticed. Just as I left him and hastened on board a sailor fell overboard from the gangplank. He was quickly rescued, but could no imagine why he had fallen. I believe, how-ever, that he was tripped up by the snake part of my friend as he convulsively rushed away."

The young man ceased and gazed pensively

"Well, well, well!" exclaimed Aunt Martha "if these are the sort of experiences you had I don't wonder that Realism was wonderful enough for you. The invisible creature was very good to you, I am sure, but I am glad it did not come with you to America.

David, who had been waiting for an oppor-tunity to speak, now interrupted further com-ments by stating that it was daylight, and if I thought well of it, he would open the window shutters so that we might see any one going toward the town. A milkman, he said, passed the house very early every morning. When the shutters were opened we were all amazed that the night should have passed so quickly. The tall burglar and the young man now began to exhibit a good deal of anxiety.

[To be continued.]

The Little Copper Kettle. From the New York World.

The little copper kettle hung on an iron crane above a spirit lamp where society brews tea and toddy is as much a fixture of the fashionable sitting room as the corner chair or the potted palm. Whether it is used or not it is the duty of the parlor maid to keep the lamp filled with alcohol and the bell-bodied kettle and lily shaped snuffer as brightly polished as the window pane or key latches. On cold nights it is not an unusual thing for the head "In a very short time I found that I had reached the snake portion of the creature, and. throwing my arms and legs around it, I endeavored with all my street and it, I endeavored with all my street." deavored with all my strength to prevent a too rapid descent, but in spite of all my efforts my downward progress was faster than I would have wished it to be, but there was no stopping, I must slip down.

departed. Aside from looking pretty the song of the kettle is merry and the clouds of steam serve to moisten the air, even if it does not cool it. Mrs. Willie Astor frequently brews chocolate in one of these quaint little carved. descent, but in spite of all my efforts my downward progress was faster than I would have wished it to be, but there was no stopping. I must slip down.

"In these moments of rapid descent my mind was filled with wild anxiety concerning what was likely to be the ratio of diminution of the serpent-like form to which I was clinging. I was likely to be the ratio of diminution of the serpent-like form to which I was clinging. I remembered in a flash that there were snakes whose caudal extremity dwindled away suddenly into a point. This one might do so, and at any instant I might come to the end of the still, slender crane.

Morgan has one of blackened iron in her library on the hearth stone, where she sometimes prepares hot lemonade, and at Mrs. Hicks Lord's afternoons the old English kettle is kept boiling and steaming until it actually swings in the tall, slender crane.

The easiest way for a good wife to get along leasantly is to practice what her husband preaches.—Atchison Giobe. Some men's affairs don't get straightened out

until about the same time they do themselves.

Burlington Free Press.

THE LIVES OF CONGRESSMEN. How They Are Written Up for the Congressional Directory.

THE EXPERIENCES OF THE COMPILER-MEMBERS WHO WANT TO MENTION THEIR ANCESTORS-OTHERS WHO CONCEAL THEIR AGES-REFUSALS TO GIVE MIDDLE NAMES.

The United States government does not issue from its gigantic printing and publishing establishment another work that is in such great immediate demand as the Congressional Directory. Ten thousand people want the papercovered result of Mr. W. H. Michael's industry, and, like the folks who want pistols in Texas. they need them suddenly. Senators and Representatives have hourly use for it, society leaders yearn for its appearance because it shows what statesmen have wives and daughters with them-no calling list can be made up without its aid; compilers of state blue books and authors of almanacs await its coming, and the general public which is on a visit to washington scans its pages with interest.

marriage licenses.

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THE STAMPS IN THE MUSEUM.

the minister under whom the act was passed.

afterward made the statement that he would have staked his life on the obedience of the

colonies to the measure. Of course, however,

there was a decided resistance, as every Amer-

ican knows, which led to the repeal of the act

istry. The stamps themselves were hand-

Brill received an offer of £10

Written for THE EVENING STAR.

beauty

And falling off to die!

ished.

And sailed into the night!

Till yonder looms the end!

Many are battling still!

To hasten down the hill!

A strenuous force we feel

A rope to draw the plow!

Along the winding stream!

Gardens where roses grow!

Your buds but sadly blow!

Fresh are the fields we see!

Strange skein of destiny!

Their freight a fleeting dream.

A band about the brow!

The thread from Clotho's reel.

Where'er our fortunes trend!

Though some have fallen in the mad arena

But 'mid the labyrinth of wild confusion.

A cable to ascend Ambition's mountain!

The line of destiny our fate is guiding

As o'er the tide our argosies are gliding.

Throughout the tumult to its dire conclusion

silken cord that leads us to Love's fountain!

Years that are gone, we miss ye and we mourn ye,

Wreaths of the past with withered leaves adorn ye;

FASHIONABLE SHOES.

The Kind They Wear in London and

What They Covet in New York.

The most fashionable London shoes, for very

smart occasions, are in silk, suede, or morocco

corresponding with the gown, with contrast-

ing heels, rands, and either ribbon tying the

side flaps together, on the instep or a hand-

some buckle. Gray silk or morrocco, with

white heels, rands and a silver buckle; dark

green with white, reseda with pale pink, black

with red, gold color with gray, have all been

popular combinations, and have been worn at

Goodwood, the garden party at Marlborough

house, and at entertainments on board the

and is a copy of French court shoes, wore very

the bows are smartly set up, each one lined with color, drawn together at the base in form

somewhat resembling a mouse's ear, while others are laid over upon the shoe, sometimes

with three pearl or crystal studs placed down

For ordinary wear kid shoes are more fash.

ionable than satin. For afternoon wear colored

and embossed morocco shoes, after the Louis XV period, with high-pointed instep flaps and

handsome buckles, are much worn. These shoes are often worn with historical costumes.

Exploded Notions.

There are a good many notions long ex-

That all club men get drunk and don't go

nome till morning.

That the children of fashionable people are

That all women lay the seeds for rapid consumption by getting their petticoats wet on rainy days

That all women are jealous of each other.

That all women are underpaid.

That all mince pies are indigestible.

That a little candy is unnealthy.

That a fruit diet will save your body and

That your way is the right way, and mine is

the wrong.

Nobody believes any of these things, except the people who live such narrow lives that they think nothing good can come out of Nazareth.

Santa Claus can't come down the now, but he gets there just the same

not well taken care of.

That all boarding house tables are bad.

That all women wear tight stays.

Nobody believes, for example, that all wor

piping and so on.

From the New York Sun.

wear tight shoes.

That all wo

ploded.

ships and yachts off Portsmouth.

- DAVID GRAHAM ADEE.

Years yet to come we welcome and adore ye!

Visions of glory deck the skies before ye!

Flashed from the roseate sky,

Vain was your transient light!

have pictures and proper legends that will help

to tell the story of the causes that led to the

The Thread of Life.

Years of the past, when youth and bloom and

Your flowers are growing old, your blossoms fruity

O, radiant scenes from life's fair landscape ban-

THE ORIGIN OF THE PUBLICATION. The first Congressional Directory was issued

in 1827 and was then a little 3 by 5 affair which was but little more than a list of Senators and Representatives. Twenty-four very diminutive pages were barely filled even with the large type which was then so universally used. In those days the postmaster of the House was the editor and compiler of the document, and as its preparation and publication brought to that official neither solid reward nor fleeting fame but little brain power was used in its compilation. The man who brought it out of the darkness was the late Ben: Perley Poore, whose duty it became, as clerk to the joint committee on printing, to undertake the publication of the directory. Major Poore, then a young man, developed it, added new features to it and gave it a place among the works of the most select standard authors. During the Forty-sixth Congress, when the

Senate became democratic, a reorganization of that body resulted in the appointment of Mr. F. A. Richardson, chief of the Washington bureau of the Baltimore Sun, as clerk of the printing records, and as such he compiled two in March, 1766, under the Rockingham mindirectories.

The work is now done by Mr. W. H. Michael, a Nebraska newspaper proprietor, who was called by Senator Manderson to the clerkship of the Senate committee on printing and the labors incident to the compilation of the direc-

HOW THE BOOK IS CONSTRUCTED.

A STAR reporter found Mr. Michael in a chatty mood an evening or two ago and asked him to tell the public just how the directory has to be constructed.

"Nothing elaborate about it," replied Mr. Michael, "but it entails a good deal of work. The first step after a new Congress has been elected is to send to each of the recently exalted Senators and Representatives a request for a biographical sketch of himself and the size of the total vote cast for himself and his antagonists. Accompanying this request is a sample sketch and the information that the committee on printing, not having the fear of Congressmen before their eyes, had resolved that no man, no matter how distinguished he was or thought he was, would be allowed to tell all he knew about himself if he could not do it in twenty lines of the directory. The limitation was not set until it had become absolutely necessary. There was a disposition on the part of many to transcend all reasonable national museum here, where they will be appreciated and properly preserved. They will be installed in a handsome frame, which will ounds and their lengthy chapters would have made the book too large to serve properly the purpose for which it was intended

HUNDREDS OF LETTERS.

"To obtain the information required never American revolution. takes less than five hundred letters, for not ten per cent of those applied to send the correct figures relating to their election. New memers always give their majorities and frequently endeavor to direct particular attention to the fact that these particular majorities are much larger than any majorities ever given any one else in the same district. heir majority and refer the compiler to the secretary of state for the other figures."

Does the biographical matter come in in pretty good shape?" asked the reporter.

"Sometimes," was the reply. "But very often it does not. Frequently the answers are campaign sketches from four to ten pages of As ships upon the ocean so ye vanished reprint, with an accompanying note to the effect that the desired information will undoubt-Yet, Time has borne us bravely on our journey, edly be found in the pamphlet. In several As champions of old we wage the tourney instances the brief biographical data called for has turned up in the shape of four or five columns clipped from a newspaper and en-Slowly we climb the summit of the scena

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHIES. "Does it take long to gather the necessary

information?" "Yes; it keeps me busy all summer. This would not be were it not for the delays. As soon as a man is elected to a place in the na-tional legislature he seems to be overcome by a sudden impulse which takes him away to the mountains, or the seashore, or to Europe, or somewhere else where he is hard to find. The directory, however, must be out during the first week of December and it must have all the biographical sketches in it, so the compiler follows the statesman by letter and telegram

until the facts called for are sent him." "Is there any particular class of men whose 'copy' is clearer and more to the point than that of any other class?"

"The variety of replies given to the sam set of questions is almost endless and but few new congressmen give just what is asked for. The clearest replies come invariably from men whose education was largely received in the printing office; they never make mistakes. I guard against errors as far as I possibly can and it is a regular practice to send each Congressman a proof of his biography before it is published. Very few of these proofs come back unmarked and quite frequently attempts are made to add a great deal of matter which was sent in the first letter, but which necessarily had to be left out. Frequent and persistent are the efforts made to refer to dis tinguish persons who were the ancestors of either the writer or his wife; of course there is no room in the directory for the roots and branches of a couple of hundred genealogical trees, however honorable they may be. As a rule, however, the Congressman is modest. Surprised. eh? It's true, though. There are a in whose character modesty is not the principal feature, but it is a fact that the great majority of these men whose lives are out-lined in the directory are inclined to modesty in their statements as to themselves; too modest in many cases."

ARMY RECORDS. "Do those who have military or naval rec rds seem desirous of having them incorporated The fashion of piping shoes with cork comes to us from the commencement of the eighteenth century. The black patent-leather shoe, with colored satin heel, is another fashionable shoe, in their biographies?" queried the reporter.

"They do," said Mr. Michael. "Both Union and confederates are particular about that, Both are evidently proud of what they did in the late war. They are not, however, equally willing to give the directory the benefit of their full names. Odd, isn't it? Very peculiar, but very true. Most of them will give their first name and their last, but they seem to have a lecided objection to doing any more than give the initial of their middle name when they have one. Especially is this reluctance—often a direct refusal—noticeable in northern and western men; southern men are invariably willing to tell it all."

"Have you found out why?"
"I think I have," replied Mr. Michael. "I seems to be so because a great many southern men in Congress have names of persons who have been historically prominent, and in most nstances the Christian names were those o these distinguished ancestors. A large number of the northern and western men who were sked for their middle names refused point blank to give them. A few of the southerners neglected to send more than the middle initial but in no instance did one of them refuse.

REFUSING INFORMATION REGARDING AGE. "There is another line on which refusals were not wanting," continued Mr. Michael and that is as to age. Occasionally a Congressman would confess himself to be a bachelor and would state quite emphatically that he did not desire his age to be made plain in

"How long does it take the government print-ing office to turn out the book? About four days. That means that from 235 to 250 pages of type are set up and printed from and that 13,000 copies have been bound and delivered. Of this number 500 have been bound in cloth for members; the others are in paper covers. The second edition comes out after the House committees have been appointed. That edition numbers 20,000 and there is not the slightest difficulty in getting rid of the whole of it."

EAGERNESS FOR BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS. "I would confine the first edition," said Mr. Michael, "simply to the biographical sketches and would have copies of it on the desks of Congressmen when the Senate and House are called to order on the first Monday in Decemcalled to order on the first Monday in December. I suppose you will disagree with me, but it is an indisputable fact that the biographies are read with more avidity on that day than on any other. Old members and new ones are mixed up so as to be lost for awhile, and both classes refer to the directory to tell them who this man on the right is or who is he that sets to the left or in front. Members get to know each other very speedily through the instrumentality of those few lines devoted to each."

STAMPS WITH A HISTORY. DEAD BEATS AND PRODIGALS. Two Rare Specimens Presented to the They Are Both Objectionable From the National Museum. Bar Tender's Standpoint.

There have lately come into the possession "Dead beats don't trouble me very much, of the national museum two articles which are said the saloon keeper. "Of course, the way of great interest to every American and of parthey work is to call for a drink, usually, and ticular value to every student of American histhen say they have't any money. Such an tory. These are nothing more nor less than announcement rather stumps the bartender, two of the original stamps engraved in England | as a rule; for what is he to do? He finds very for use in the American colonies in accordance little satisfaction ln bouncing the offender, with the provisions of the stamp act of Febsince, at the close of the performance, the ruary, 1765. This was the act which caused party fired is still undeniably one drink ahead such an uproar among the colonies and which of the establishment. On the other hand, he was one of the main causes of all the trouble can hardly be expected to smile and look amiaimmediately preceding and leading up to the revolution. It was intended that the revenue to be raised by the stamp act should come from study human nature as it is exhibited before the sale of stamped paper and stamps which were he gets his grip on the bottle. Many a time required to be placed upon all paper used in has a customer unknown to me come in here commercial transactions, suits at law, publicaand said, 'Whiskey, please!' And I have re-plied: 'Let me see your money first.' Nor tions, transfers of real estate, inheritances and have I once made a mistake in such a case. There is something about the way in which a man whose pockets are empty shambles up to the bar that indicates his insolvency unmistakably; he cannot, somehow, successfully imitate the confident air of the person who has the wherewithal to settle for what he orders, A person without experience in this business ould fail to notice any such little symptoms as I speak of; it is all a matter of technical education. I said just now that I had never mis-taken a paying customer for a beat; I may add that I was never but once beaten in the ordinary way. That was by a slick-looking fellow, not badly dressed, who walked into this saloon Thus a tax was placed upon the colonies and remarked that he wanted a little rye-not without their consent and the money derived the common sort, but the best the house afforded, no matter what it cost. He filled his from this tax was to be used for the supglass up to the brim from the bottle, guessed port of a standing army, which in turn was he'd have another; they loaded up again as beexpected to enforce the payment of the tax. fore, swallowed number two, and, as he put his the decorations and as decorations in them Apparently no Englishman dreamed of any retumbler down on the bar, said; That went to sistance to the act and it is said that Grenville.

> "What did you do then?" queried THE STAR a half to get over that bar and grab the beat by

somely engraved and ran in value from a halfdelivered kick. As he scrambled to his feet he colors and several styles of decoration. To penny up to several pounds. The two stamps now in the museum are of the value of a halfsaid: 'Pardner, if it wasn't for the good liquor friend who already has a lamp, a pretty in me I might feel hurt, but, as it is-O tooralpenny and a penny. They are uncanceled and are two of eight which were preserved by the heirs of the Hon. Welbore Ellis, who was comli-looral-li-lay." And he walked down the street | the one she now possesses, thus making the singing as cheerfully as possible. No, as I said, variety, which is a desirable thing in rooms as there is never any satisfaction to be got out of a beat. The only thing is to avoid being taken over which a lace may be gathered into a frill. missioner of internal revenue for Great Britain in the year 1765. After his death they came into in. After all, I am quite as apt to have trouble | tied at the top with ribbons. A black lace and the possession of his son Welbore Ellis, jr., who with men who want to spend too much money a white lace flounce for a lamp may give quite was a partner in the famous banking house of Walker, Maltby, Everett & Ellis, which failed as with men who have none at all to squander.' "And how is that?" in the great financial panic of 1827. These two

stamps remained in the Eilis family up to a always reckless about money. Particularly on Saturday nights they will throw away cash that is really needed, maybe, by their families. It may seem strange to find a saloon keeper with silver, iron and delicately shaded porcefew years ago, when they were given to Mr. E. J. Walker of Newcastle-on-Tyne by his grand-father, the senior member of the above-mentioned banking firm, who was interested in any feelings, but I don't care to take in coin lain are the newest, brass, which was so poputhat way. The enstomer who comes in here lar a few years ago, being a little by-gone. The antiques and curiosities. A short time ago the two stamps were given by Mr. E. J. Waiker to Mr. John A. Brill of Philadelphia. Very soon with a week's hard-earned wages in his pocket and wants to buy out the house is not a welafter the stamps came into his possession Mr. English collector for the two, but declined it at once, whereupon the Englishman cabled him away their most private affairs in conversation, an offer several times as large, which was also though not at all intoxicated. They never seem declined. Mr. Brill came to the conclusion that if the stamps were of that much value to an Englishman they would be of much more inshot in front of the bar, of the presence of the terest to an American museum of historical relics and he promptly presented them to the secrets, but to keep them is a matter profes-

> Meeting at Night. The gray sea and the long black land; And the yellow half-moon large and low; And the startled little waves that leap In fiery ringlets from their sleep, As I gain the cove with pushing prow, And quench its speed in the slushy sand.

sional with him.

Then a mile of warm, sea-scented beach; Three fields to cross till a farm appears; A tap at the pane, the quick, sharp scratch And blue spurt of a lighted match And a voice less loud, through joys and fears, two hearts beating each to each

Parting at Morning. Rour the cape of a sudden came the sea And the sun loo..ed over the mountain's rim; And straight was a path of gold for him, And the need of a world of men for me. -ROBERT BROWNING

SCRAPS OF GOSSIP. SHORTSTOPS IN THE GAME OF FASHION -PRETTY CASHMERE GOWN.

THERE is a decided reaction in low cut gowns. A revival and also a pretty innovation s the use of the lace bib in low cut bodices. HANDKERCHIEFS follow the lead of dresses and mantles and have long and sharply intended trimming.

A Swiss Bodics of the same color as the skirt will be much seen in ball room costumes. MANY TULLE DRESSES will be worn in simple color and pale pink will be largely used, one of the changes being its adoption by some of the most attractive of the debutants for their

coming-out gowns. HEAVY BEAVER CLOTHS in diagonal designs are made up into long wraps and make very handsome and serviceable wraps.

For Evening Gowns tulle, of course, will hold its own and can be had in exquisite new shades and is popular draped over a foundation of a different color. Black tulle veiling will be one of the combinations much seen also black over apple green.

AN UNUSUAL NUMBER of crepe de chine dresses have made their appearance this sea-SILE MUSLIN is decidedly a fashionable

fabric of the season, and those fond of net will still adhere to it. RATHER A NEW EFFECT in ball dresses consists in having the bottom of the skirt and the

corsage sometimes outlined with pinked-out ruching. A pretty fancy is to have the ruche composed of artificial rose petals. Some OF THE DAINTIEST BALL DRESSES for young wearers have ribbon introduced in the

manner of the classic Greek costumes. Some of the Brocades worn are very beautiful, especially in combination with tulle and other filmy materials. WHILE SKIRTS were never so simple, bodices

are very elaborate. Most of bodices will have small puffed sleeves, and floral garlands will be much used as a trimming reaching from

shoulder to waist. A LATE Novelty consists of having a long ostrich feather curled around the arm at the

edge of the short sleeves. THE EMPIRE still dominates in evening dress and short waists and plain skirts will continue

to be the rage. A sash or girdle about the waist is pretty much the only relief from this serverity.

and is a copy of French court shoes, wore very many years ago, the shape and general fashion being adhered to, though the patent leather is an invention of modern day. Those with red heels and handsome gold buckles are extremely smart and most becoming to the feet. For evening, brocade shoes, made with the contrasting heel and rand, with dainty bows, lived with the color of the heal or with out A TYPICAL BROWN-AND-BLACK GOWN,-In woolen fabrics golden brown and black form a favored contrast. A typical brown-and-black lined with the color of the heel or with cut buckles, are in the height of fashion. Some of gown is of black cashmere and brown Bengaline Bengaline is seen, a broad lap falling from the top of the panel. On the bottom of this panel is applied a black passementeric ornament a fourth of a yard wide; the passementeric is of lace-like pattern and every leaf and figure is fastened securely. The bodice has a polonaise the center. The brocade is usually that of the gown the shoe is to be worn with and the heel and rand that of the color in it, such as gold and white brocade with a gold satin heel and back, which extends the full length of the skirt in smooth plaits and is decorated with two black crocheted buttons, placed just below the waist line. The jacket fronts are short and jaunty and turn away to display a double-breasted waistcoat of Bengaline that is closed with small brown silk buttons. Like the jacket portion, the vest has a rolling collar, from under which comes a chemisette of brown passementerie arranged over cashmere, the care-ful mingling of the black and brown being very effective. The high collar is hidden under a black ribbon stock. Upon each of the coat sleeves, which are very high on the shoulders, sieeves, which are very high on the shoulders, is carefully applied a strip of passementerie that reaches from the top to the cuff, and as the sleeves are of Bengaline the passementerie is very ornamental. This costume will be accompanied by a seal jacket of darkest dye and a muff to match. Either serpent, olive, blue, gray or putty may be united with black in this way, but golden brown is especially stylish.

After the Ball. From the Pittsburg Bulle

Mrs. Politique-"Thank Heaven, it is over! By the way, you danced five times with that odius Mrs. Bullion!"

Bullion's bank tomorrow. By the way you gave that awful little Sentpersent no less than four

"Look forward and not back,"
The travelled track
ars many a footstep thou wouldst fain re
Press onward to the goal,
The homeland of the soul,
I leave the wayward past for God's ha
efface.

Written for THE EVENING STAR.

ATTRACTIVE HOMES. Pretty Things for Christmas That May

Make Them More Attractive. SUGGESTIONS THAT MAY HELP ONE PUZZLED OVER THE CHOICE OF A GIFT-UNIQUE DE-SIGNS FOR LAMPS-DISPLAYS AT THE JEWELESS -PHOTOGRAPH FRAMES AND GARTER BUCKLES

Before THE STAR of another Saturday evening shall "rise and shine" the grand festival of the year will be a thing of the past. The culmination of weeks and months of preparation on the part of merchants and all other caterers ble, as if he appreciated the little jest that has to the public taste—the Christmas of 1889—will been played on him. The only useful plan is to be gone forever. At this breathless time, however, such somber reflections are crowded out the bar and learn to recognize the beat before with the numberless last things which fill the week before the 25th. No matter how long beforehand one begins one's making or buying there is a rush at the end and anxious thoughte for fear of some one left unremembered. Only two more days of work or shopping before all

must be ready.
It is too late to suggest anything for making; only finishing touches can be put on articles already under way. There will be crowded shops, however, for some people put off their holiday purchases until the last minute from inclination or habit. Others go about to see the crowds as much as anything, a gregarious disposition seeming to prevail at this season To fix the wandering tastes and fancies of belated Christmas buyers I will add some hinte and suggestions to those already given.

Never were lamps more used since gas has

been burned at all. At all the fashionable

entertainments at private houses lamps are

prominent, both as the means of displaying selves. There is scarcely a drawing room in the right spot and I'm awfully sorry that I town that has not its softly shaded lamp of an evening shedding a subdued yet brilliant light on all about it. In consequence of this popueporter.

Weil, sir, it took me exactly one second and presents this Christmas. The umbrella or piano lamps lead off, perhaps, as the most in the back of the neck. Three-quarters of a second later he was sitting in the gutter outside, where I had landed him with one well-ings. The large umbrella shades come in all gift would be a shade differing in color a diversity to its appearance on different occa-"And how is that?"
"Simply that men in their cups are almost in all styles of finish, and many are reason-Rochester burners, while not so handsome as some other lamps, give such a powerful and come guest. I often refuse absolutely to sell to satisfactory light that they are in great desuch a one. The funniest thing of all is the mand. A pretty shade of silk or lace can be way in which men drinking at a bar will give put on one of these lamps, adding much to its looks. If the lamp is wanted for reading or writing, a white lace shade gives it a graceful to think, so long as there is no one within ear- look while not interfering with its light at all. Where the lamp is to light the room in a genman who is waiting upon them behind it. A bar tender is always loaded with other people's tone the light to a suitable dimness for conversation merely. Many are the fanciful lamp shades concecting by busy flagers for gifts at Christmas. Very dainty and pretty they are too in their freshness and soft coloring. Of course later on dust and scorehing will do their devastating work and the beauty will be ruined. This will make room and opportunity, however, for other gifts to fill the gaps, if it were not for which some of us would have soon to build annexes to our domiciles to hold all the portions of goods that fall to us at Christmas time. A young lady who wanted different colors of lace, which she was unable to find in the shops, took tapestry dyes, and by mixing them was ribbon and point white lace. In this way she could make any variety she wished, and by shirring up on a ribbon, either alone or over silk, made some very pretty shades for lamps and gas globes.

AT THE JEWELERS'. The jewelers' displays attract as many people-perhaps more-than any other line of goods. Besides the standards of jewelry and silverware so many novelties in the way of use and ornament have crept in as to fairly be-wilder one. Here the men seem to receive a good deal of consideration, as many of the handsome articles are especially for their grati-fication. Among the costly objects are the inkstands of Mexican onyx for the library table. These have two wells and pen tray and are gold mounted. Of paper cutters there are all sizes, from the immense ivery newspaper cutter to the medium knife for magazines, and so down

to the smallest, the little silver letter opener, this last often combined with bookmark. The silver boxes, plush hmed, for collars and cuffs are quite luxurious looking. All sorts of ingenious devices are carried out in paper weights. As much so as any is one consisting of two silver ostriches, about five inches in height. In the backs of each is in-serted a shell of mottled brown and white and so shaped as to form the slope of the back, curving down to the legs. On the back of one

sits a driver—a silver figure of proportionate size, and a silver standard connects the two birds—a unique way of mounting shells. Other things are silver pocket knives, all kinds of silver-mounted leather cases for eigarettes, court plaster, eye glasses and pocket articles generally. Shoe horns of sterling and plated silver. Corkscrews of all sizes, both in silver alone or with ivory handles, tipped with silver alone or with ivery handles, tipped with silver. There are attractive little labels of "Brandy" and 'Whisky," with filigree silver encirching them and chains to clasp around the bottle—I sup-pose those are for the men! While the silvernounted carving sets are as handsome as such implements can be made. PROTOGRAPH FRAMES.

Among the newest things to strike feminine

fancy are the silver photograph frames. Nowsdays photographs are such really artistic pictures that they are quite worthy such impor-tant and costly framing. The rage for amateur photography has made large collections of phocorsage, front and back, very much after the tographs more common than they used to be, and graceful posing in artistic costuming has given some really beautiful pictures to these collections. The silver frames are in varied styles as well as sizes, the smallest of all being perhaps the prettiest. All kinds of photograph frames are used now, either singly or with an opening for two or more pictures. Among the daintiest are the ones of white linen, mounted as the silk ones have been for several years, but generally with an opening for one picture only. Over the linen is scattered the inest of flowers, painted in water colors of several different shades, with green leaves attached. For bed room or boudoir they make

charming Christmas gifts. GARTER BUCKLES. Garter buckles of silver have come in greater variety than ever this year. Possibly more

will be distributed at weddings than as holiday souvenirs. In the German imperial family the curious fashion of giving garters to the friends of the bridegroom still prevails. At the wedof very heavy quality. The long tablier, which is of the wool goods, is wrinkled and drawn to one side, being so arranged that a panel of commemorate the event. The bride's pair was of pale blue silk with diamond buckles. One pair was for the Hohenzollern collection at Berlin, where already some three score were exhibited. The eleven remaining pairs were for the nobles attending the crown prince of Greece. This is a fancy that may find favor on this side of the Atlantic, and garters may become one of the features of American weddings in the near future. The subject of Christmas presents has drifted

away and wedding favors have crept in. It only remains to recall the former theme long enough to wish to the readers of THE STAR the tim worn yet always welcome "merry Christmas with "Peace on earth, good will to men."

Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt. From the New York World. Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt comes of a well-

known southern family, and is one of three sisters, all of whom are graceful and accom-plished women and all of whom have entered into matrimonial alliances which have com-manded the interest of New York society. One of Mrs. Vanderbilt's sisters married Ferdinand Yznaga and another one the Baron de Fontenelliat, a young Frenchman. The two sisters have shown some eccentricity in their capacity as wives which, it is understood, has given Mrs.

as wives which, it is understood, has given Mrs. Vanderbilt considerable pain. Mrs. Yznage secured a divorce two years ago and married George Tiffany of Baltimore, and the Baroness de Fontenellist has applied for a separation from her titled spouse.

Mrs. Vanderbilt herself is a devoted wife and mother and is her husband's constant companion. They have three children, and these accompany their parents on all their travels. The family are said to expend a fortune every year for their current expenses. They have the handsome yacht the Alva, on which they take long voyages. A part of each year is spent abroad and at the Jekyil Island club, and besides this they have a town house at 5th avenue and 52d street and a country house on Long Island. Their yearly expenses are put down at \$200,000, and they will be further increased when Mr. Vanderbilt finishes the magnificent villa which he is now building at Newport.

Mr. P .- "Yes. I expect to ask favors of Mr.

waltzes."
Mrs. P.—"Yes. Mrs. S. gives a swell reception next month."

Look Forward.

Democrat—"This has been a pretty hard year for the republicans in the United States." Bepublican—"Yes, but we carried Brazil."—